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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1429)

Name of Candidate	MAYANK KHANDELWAL		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	644696
Center	DELHI	Date	20/8/19

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
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9	10	
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11	15	
12	15	
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14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Illustrate how pressure groups have emerged as a strong mechanism for making democracy participatory and responsive. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**
उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए समझाइए कि किस प्रकार दबाव समूह, लोकतंत्र को सहभागी और अनुक्रियाशील बनाने हेतु एक सुदृढ़ तंत्र के रूप में उभरे हैं।

ans. Pressure group both formal and informal have helped in deepening of democracy by increasing people participation.

They have evolved throughout 20th & 21st century to raise voices on diverse issues and groups.

Role of pressure groups in improving participatory democracy :-

(i) Many groups whose voices were earlier unheard are not have a platform.
eg. Women, SC (Manual scavenger), Transgenders, STs

(ii) Provides for channalised people response to govt schemes. eg. Narmada Bachao Andolan

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(iii) Formal pressure groups are consulted before policy formulation. eg. FICCI, CII etc.

Role of Pressure group in making democracy responsive :-

(i) Enactment of Lokpal Act, 2013 after public outrage due to ever increasing corruption.

(ii) Formal pressure group convey their concerns to govt for policy change.

eg. Automobile manufacturers demanding low GST on vehicle.

- Angel tax regulation relaxed after industry intervention.

Thus, pressure groups are very essential for raising people's concern and coordination with government.

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2. Explain the significance and controversies, if any, associated with the Article 35A of the Indian constitution. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 35A के महत्व और उससे संबद्ध विवादों, यदि कोई हो, की व्याख्या कीजिए।

ans Art 35(A) was added to Indian Constitution by Presidential Order, 1954 under Art 370.

Recently, GoI has scrapped Art 35(A).

* Art 35(A) provided powers to J&K legislature to define permanent resident and confer on them special rights and privileges such as

(i) Only residents can buy immoval property

(ii) Benefit of reservation in jobs, employment

Controversies

(i) Descriminatory to women as they would loose inheritance right if married to

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outsider.

(ii) Discriminatory to people who came during partition.

(iii) Outsiders can't buy immovable properties → Resist investment and developement project.

Now, after scrapping Art 35(A), there will be equality of opportunity to all people in the J&K UT.

Government must try to reach to youth of J&K by outreach program so that they don't get alienated.

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3. The ambiguity surrounding lobbying in India is further exacerbated by the country's endemic corruption. In this context, critically examine the case for legalising lobbying in India. **(150 words) 10 Marks**

भारत में लॉबिंग को लेकर विद्यमान अस्पष्टता देश में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार से और भी गंभीर हो जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को वैध बनाने के प्रश्न का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

ans- Lobbying is the practice in which groups try to affect policy making decisions taken by govt. through financial considerations.

* In Many countries, lobbying is legalised.

* Recently, Law commission of India has sparked debate on question of legalising lobbying.

Benefit of legalising lobbying :-

(i) It is better to legalise since it is difficult to control it.

(ii) Govt will benefit in form of funds & resources.

(iii) It is already in practice illegally.

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(iv) People would know about nature of relationship b/w corporates and govt. They can make informed decision.

Concerns :-

(i) It is ethically wrong.

(ii) Govt formulate policy for complete country & not for few corporates.

(iii) Reduce trust of people in government of the day.

Since it is difficult to delineate lobbying from corruption, it is better to institutionalise it. However, it must be done only after all stakeholders agree.

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4. Independent India adopted a modified version of the Westminster model of government. In this context discuss the commonalities and differences between the political system of India and UK. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**
स्वतंत्र भारत ने सरकार की वेस्टमिंस्टर प्रणाली का एक संशोधित संस्करण अपनाया। इस संदर्भ में, भारत और UK की राजनीतिक व्यवस्था के मध्य समानताओं और विभेदों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

ans: Constitution of India is greatly influenced by GoI Act, 1935. India adopted parliamentary form of democracy similar to westminster Model.

- B.R. Ambedkar said that since we are familiar with this system, it is better to adopt it as compared to presidential form of democracy.

Commonalities :-

(i) Both parliamentary form of democracy.
(ii) Executive taken from legislature and collectively responsible to it.
(iii) Bicameral Legislature
(iv) Procedure established by law followed.
(v) Similar administrative system.
(vi) Single citizenship & integrated Judiciary.

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Differences

Indian	British
(i) Written constitution	(i) Unwritten
(ii) Constitution supremacy	(ii) Parliament supremacy
(iii) Power of Judicial review	(iii) No such power
(iv) Republic	(iv) Monarchy
(v) Limited constitution amendment power	(v) Unlimited
(vi) Independent judiciary	(vi) Judiciary can't declare parliamentary law unconstitutional.
(vii) Federal structure	(vii) Unitary structure
(viii) PM - can be from Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha	(viii) PM only from Lower house

Although we have adopted Westminster form of govt but we have tweaked it to suit to our requirements and challenges -

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5. Political parties are an integral part of the democratic set up of India. In the context, discuss the need for strengthening the process of institutionalization of intra-party democracy in political parties in India. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**

राजनीतिक दल भारत की लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था के अभिन्न अंग है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में राजनीतिक दलों में अंत: दलीय लोकतंत्र को संस्थागत किए जाने की प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

ans. Political parties put candidates in election which form government and run the country. Hence, they are integral part of democratic set up.

Importance of political parties

(i) Concerns of people are raised through parties.

(ii) Govt-in-power policies derive from Manifesto of political party.

(iii) They form the government.

(iv) They constitute opposition.

However, it is ironical that constitution does not have single but regulating political parties

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Need for strengthening institutionalisation of intra party democracy

Today there is a need of law to govern and regulate behaviour of political parties, their intra party election, political funding etc. because :-

(i) To stop dynastic party rule

(ii) so that capable candidates rise to the top of party structure

(iii) To build public confidence in functioning of political parties.

(iv) To provide channel through which party workers can raise their issue

(v) To provide for grievance redressal with political parties.

All political parties must come together to evolve common code of conduct / law so that those who run the democracy become democratic themselves.

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6. It is of paramount importance to ensure that the Election Commission of India (ECI) be fully insulated from political pressure to maintain the purity of elections. In this context, discuss the need to have a relook at the process of appointment and removal of election commissioners to the ECI. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**

चुनावों की शुचिता बनाए रखने के लिए यह सुनिश्चित करना सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण है कि भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) राजनीतिक दबाव से पूर्णतया मुक्त रहे। इस संदर्भ में, ECI के निर्वाचन आयुक्तों की नियुक्ति और पदच्युति की प्रक्रिया पर पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

ans Art 324 of constitution provides for office of election commission. It is entrusted to conduct free and fair election which is basic structure of constitution

However, Recently during Lok Sabha election 2019, there have been allegation that ECI acted in biased manner towards government.

(1) Process of appointment :-

- Appointed by President on recommendation of Cabinet government.
- Can hold post retirement jobs.

Law commission of India recommendation

There must be a collegium of PM, LOP Lok Sabha and CJI to elect them.

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(2) Process of removal

- Only CEC is given security of tenure. Removed by same manner as supreme Court Judge.
- Other 2 election commissioners have no security of tenure.

Law Commission recommendation

a) All 3 must be provided with security of tenure

b) It should be made convention that senior most EC would become CEC automatically.

Hence, to build trust of citizen in election process, it is necessary that ECI remain independent and free from political intervention

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7. In post-liberalised India, it is imperative that the role of state be that of a facilitator, and not one of a regulator. Analyse. **(150 words) 10 Marks**
उदारीकरण के पश्चात् के भारत में, यह अनिवार्य है कि राज्य की भूमिका एक सुविधाप्रदाता की हो, न कि एक नियामक की। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

ans. After LPG reforms, 1991, we have seen decreasing role of state in spheres such as economic sphere as licencing criteria was reduced in many industries, monopoly was abolished.

Today, Govt focus is on MINIMUM GOVERNMENT, MAXIMUM GOVERNANCE.

In this highly advanced and technology driven scenario role of state has changed from regulator to facilitator because:—

a) State have limited financial resources which must be spent on core goods and services.

b) Govt does not have domain expertise

c) Private sector is capable to perform

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d) Govt. must focus on governance.

e) Govt main function is to maintain law and order, justice etc.

f) Govt must focus on enhancing capability of citizens so that they become self-dependent.

Recently, Govt is focusing on disinvestment to exit from many sector. On the other hand, money earned can be used for developmental purposes

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8. By providing new pools of leadership talent, lateral entry will help in addressing the most crucial challenges that the civil services in India currently face. Critically evaluate. **(150 words) 10 Marks**

प्रतिभावान नेतृत्वकर्ताओं के नए समूह प्रदान कर, पार्श्व प्रवेश भारत में सिविल सेवाओं के समक्ष वर्तमान समय में व्याप्त सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सहायता करेगा। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

ans: Recently, Government has selected 10 professionals for joint secretary post through UPSC from private sector & PSUs.

Current problem of Bureaucracy

(i) Lack of domain expertise
(ii) Stagnation in thinking and policy making
(iii) Policy making become complex task because of technology. eg. cyber crime
(iv) Sense of job security & promotion
Not willing to take risk

Benefit of lateral entry

(i) will bring domain expertise
(ii) More new minded in decision making
(iii) Instill competition in Bureaucracy.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(iv) Innovative ideas will come

Concerns in lateral entry

(i) Resistance from Bureaucracy

(ii) 3-yrs very small time period to hold accountability & responsibility

(iii) They don't have experience to work in infrastructure lacking environment

(iv) Lack of field experience.

Hence, it is a experiment worth trying for. However, time period of appointment may be increased.

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9. Discuss the need for an effective and functional working relationship between Gram Panchayats and SHGs. How can an efficient synergy between the two be achieved? **(150 words) 10 Marks**

ग्राम पंचायतों और SHGs के मध्य एक प्रभावी एवं कार्यात्मक कार्यकारी संबंध की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। दोनों के मध्य एक कार्यक्षम सहक्रियता किस प्रकार प्राप्त की जा सकती है?

ans Gram panchayat and SHGs are 2 pillars of public participation at grass root level.

- Both emerges from villages and rural population. Both have common members. Hence, there is need of synergy b/w them :-

(i) So that village development plans formed by gram panchayat promote SHG.

(ii) Concerns of SHG such as lack of infrastructure, electricity is included in development planning

(iii) So that gram panchayat achieves its target of social mobility & capability enhancement through SHGs.

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Steps to be taken to achieve synergy

(i) SHGs leader must become part of gram panchayat decision making process.

(ii) Timely meeting b/w panchayat members and SHG members.

(iii) SHGs participate in GPDP making.

Hence, both SHGs and gram panchayat need to work in tandem to achieve high rural social & economic growth

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10. Public service delivery in India has long been marred by various issues leading to poor service delivery outcomes. While discussing the reasons for the same, suggest ways to make public service delivery more efficient.

(150 words) 10 Marks

भारत में सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण दीर्घकाल से विभिन्न समस्याओं से ग्रसित रहा है जिसका परिणाम निम्नस्तरीय सेवा वितरण है। इसके कारणों पर चर्चा करते हुए, सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण को अधिक कुशल बनाने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

ans: Various reasons for poor public service delivery :-

(i) Corruption
(ii) Poor identification of beneficiary
(iii) Lack of social accountability
(iv) Bureaucracy not responsive and transparent
(v) No mid level correction mechanism
(vi) No grievance redressal mechanism

Steps to be taken to make it more efficient :-

(i) Use of e-governance → helps in easy tracking of beneficiary, real time data collection, curb corruption

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(ii) Better implementation of RTI Act.

(iii) Establishing more Grievance Redressal Platform

(iv) Moving towards DBT based welfare schemes.

(v) Enhancing Role of NGOs and civil societies

(vi) More devolution of function to PRIs and ULBs

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11. Highlighting different Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms available in India, explain their importance. Also, mention different measures that have been adopted to further improve the framework of ADR in India. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

भारत में उपलब्ध विभिन्न वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान (ADR) तंत्रों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उनके महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में ADR के ढांचे में आगे और सुधार लाने के लिए अपनाए गए विभिन्न उपायों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

ans: Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms focuses on out of court dispute solution by using negotiation, arbitration, conciliation.

ADR Mechanisms help in reducing burden on court and provides for speedy and low cost justice.

Different ADR Mechanisms available in India:-

(i) Lok Adaalat :- Established by Legal services authority Act, 1986.
- Statutory Courts
- Can handle civil cases and well as criminal cases which are compoundable.

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- Organised at National, state district level by NALSA, SALSA, DALSA respectively.

(ii) Family Courts :-

- Statutory Courts set up by Family Courts Act
- They have mandate to resolve family related cases such as marriage, divorce, inheritance etc.
- Focus on negotiation and reconciliation.

Importance of ADR :-

(i) Speedy justice
(ii) Low cost justice
(iii) Less burden on conventional court
(iv) Social ties are preserved
(v) Low pendency of cases

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Measures adopted to improve ADR mechanism

(i) Govt amended LSAA, 1986 to provide for permanent lok adaalat to resolve cases of public service utility.

(ii) Gram Nyayalayas are established to provide door step justice to village people. They function as mobile courts.

Today we need to strengthen infrastructure and human resources of these courts to provide speedy & low cost justice.

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12. Success of the institutions of local self-governance depends largely on the attitude of state governments. Discuss in the context of constitutional provisions and recent experience of the working of these institutions in India. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं की सफलता मुख्य रूप से राज्य सरकारों की प्रवृत्ति पर निर्भर करती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और भारत में इन संस्थानों के कामकाज संबंधी हालिया अनुभव के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

ans: PRIs and ULBs in India were given constitutional status by 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendment Act. To give flexibility to state govt, it was left to them to devolve fund, function and functionaries to these institutions.

Thus, it is upon state govts to implement constitutional provisions in letter & spirit.

The Act provides for 29 subjects which can be given to panchayati Raj Institutions. However, it is found that many states have not given these subjects to local governments.

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Problems of local government in India :-

(i) Lack of financial autonomy
- dependent on grants
- No power to levy & collect taxes
- State govt. unwilling to devolve funds

(ii) Don't have professional manpower.

(iii) lack of coordination b/w local representatives and state government employees

(iv) Most of the states have not transferred ~~funds to~~ functions to PRIs

Concerns of state government

(i) State govt financial position is itself bad. Mostly, they are under debt.

(ii) Don't want to transfer power to local government.

(iii) Bureaucracy is also unwilling to cooperate with local representatives

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Local self govt in southern states are functioning adequately because state govt have entrusted them for developement work.

However, condition in Northern states is pathetic.

Hence, it is necessary that state government show trust and guidance to local self government to realise people participation and democratic decentralisation.

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13. Right to freedom of religion cannot be allowed to deny right to equality and individual dignity. Discuss in the light of constitutional provisions and recent judicial pronouncements. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

धर्म की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार को समानता और व्यक्तिगत गरिमा के अधिकार को नकारने की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और हाल की न्यायिक घोषणाओं के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

ans: Constitutions provides for Fundamental rights to freedom of religion under Art 25 – Art 28. However, these can be reasonably restricted based on morality, public order, other articles of Part III.

* Constitution also state to interfere in religious practices & to reform them and protect the right to equality and individual dignity (Art 21).

eg. Entry of SCs into Hindu temples

Recently, S.C. allowed Entry to women in Sabarimala temple in Kerala:–

S.C. ruled that :-

(a) Constitutional morality is over and above

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than social and religious morality

(ii) Not allowing entry on bases of menstruating cycle amounts to untouchability. Art 17 is violated

(iii) Women also have right to practice religion under Art 25. It can't be suspended.

(iv) It was not considered essential religious practice.

S.C. has also put ban on practice of instant triple talaq among muslims :-

(i) It was discriminatory to women. violated Art 14 and Art 22.

(ii) Women was treated as a subject of men which is against dignified life Art 21.

(iii) State can interfere in religious practices to reform religion

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Thus, S.C. has initiated process of societal reforms through its pronouncement. But to have a meaningful change, mindset of society needs to change. It is duty of the government to implement these judgements in spirit as well as to inculcate sensitivity towards women, minority, vulnerable group.

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14. Identify the key areas of reforms required in the judicial system in India. In this context, examine the significance of the idea of putting in place an All-India Judicial Service. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

भारत में न्यायिक प्रणाली में आवश्यक सुधारों के प्रमुख क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, एक अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा स्थापित करने के विचार के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

ans: Today, judicial system in India is facing many challenges on various fronts which requires sweeping reforms.

Key areas of reform required

(i) Better physical infrastructure especially at subordinate courts.

(ii) More no of judges required to reduce pendency of cases → 2.93 cr pendency at subordinate court, 58,000 at S.C.

(iii) Enhance judicial accountability in recruitment of judges, disciplinary action

(iv) Better Court Management in administrative side → Need of Indian Courts and Tribunal Services

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(v) Reducing culture of "Bribe for bail" at subordinate court → by formulating legally enforceable code of conduct

(vi) Improving quality of judges and judgement

(vii) Reform in collegium system → as it failed to timely recruit judges

(viii) Need for 4 Court of appeal b/w H.C. and S.C. → to reduce burden on S.C.

Today, Indian judicial system faces problem of lack of no. of judges. Acc to National Judicial Data grid, 5300 posts are vacant in subordinate courts.

Both high court and SPSC have failed in timely recruitment of district & below

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judges.

Need for All India Judicial Services

(i) To timely filling posts at district & below levels
(ii) Helps in improving quality of judges
(iii) Uniformity in quality all across country.
(iv) H.C. and SPSC have failed as H.C are not specialised in recruitment.

Thus, we need to taken major reforms at fast pace otherwise judicial system may become irreparable

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15. While there are existing laws for the same, substantial efforts still need to be undertaken to prohibit people with criminal antecedents from entering into politics. Discuss in context of the problem of criminalization of politics in India and resulting issues. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

यद्यपि इस हेतु कानून विद्यमान है, तथापि आपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि वाले लोगों का राजनीति में प्रवेश रोकने के लिए अभी भी काफी प्रयास किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण की समस्या और परिणामी मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

ans. Acc. to ADR data, Lok Sabha in 2014 had 34% legislatures against whom criminal cases were pending.

There is nexus b/w political parties and criminals due to unaccounted funding (black money).

Existing laws & provisions against criminalization of politics :-

(i) RPA, 1951 → provides for electoral offences and bars candidate for contesting.

(ii) Art 102 of Constitution → provides for certain grounds for disqualification

(iii) S.C. in Lily Thomas case ruled that candidates must be barred immediately after conviction.

(iv) Criminal data needs to be written

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in election nomination & must be published by candidate and political party.

Negative impact of criminalisation of politics:-

(i) Law breakers become law maker
(ii) People confidence reduces on democracy
(iii) Does not allow intra party democracy
(iv) Breeds corruption
(v) Poor policy making

Steps need to be taken:-

(i) law commission recommendation

a) Candidates charged by courts for heinous offenses must be banned from contesting election.

(ii) Transparent political funding to break nexus b/w criminals and political parties

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(iii) Intra party election must be held.
(iv) False declaration on election nomination must be made offense
(v) Putting a limit on party election expenditure.
(vi) Awareness among people through social media, media, etc.

Law Commission has also recommended partial state funding of election to curb menace of criminalisation of politics.

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16. On the recent World Press Freedom Index (WPFI) India ranks 140. Elucidate the significance of media in a democracy like India. Identify the major issues affecting the media in contemporary times. In this context, enumerate the measures to address these issues. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

हाल ही के विश्व प्रेस स्वतंत्रता सूचकांक (WPFI) में भारत 140वें स्थान पर है। भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में मीडिया के महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। समकालीन समय में मीडिया को प्रभावित करने वाले प्रमुख मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, इन मुद्दों का समाधान करने हेतु उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

ans. Media is considered as 4th pillar of democracy. Apart from entertainment, it is vital for information dissemination.

Significance of Media in democracy:-

(i) Information sharing and generating awareness about issues such as electoral reforms, judicial & executive overreach, corruption

(ii) Raising voice of unheard → vulnerable groups such as trans gender, manual scavengers.

(iii) Forming public opinion for reformative actions such as decriminalisation of sec 377.

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(iv) Investigative journalism
(v) Reducing social unrest and tension in society

Issues affecting Media now a days

(i) Many media channels have become biased → funded by political parties.
(ii) No segregation b/w ownership and editorship side
(iii) Problem of Paid news
(iv) Publishing news without verifying it and fake news
(v) Decrease in quality of journalism
(vi) Corporatisation of Media
(vii) Increased Censorship and control of government on Media
(viii) Journalists being killed.

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Steps to be taken :-

(i) Paid news should be declared electoral offence → law commission recommendation

(ii) Scrutiny of accounts of media houses on allegation of biasness & paid news

(iii) Govt should sparingly use censorship of press and internet → guidelines must be formed.

(iv) Speedy trials of cases involving attack on journalism

Today, there is a need to address concerns of social media along with media to curb incidents of mob lynching and fake news

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17. Explain why the doctrine of separation of powers is considered as an indispensable part of a democratic setup. Also, discussing this doctrine in the context of India, explain the principle of 'checks and balances'.

(250 words) 15 Marks

व्याख्या कीजिए कि शक्ति के पृथक्करण के सिद्धान्त को लोकतान्त्रिक व्यवस्था का एक अनिवार्य घटक क्यों माना जाता है। साथ ही, भारत के संदर्भ में इस सिद्धान्त पर चर्चा करते हुए, 'नियंत्रण और संतुलन' के सिद्धांत की भी व्याख्या कीजिए।

ans: Indian government set up in divided into 3 parts :-

a) Executive
b) Legislature
c) Judiciary

Doctrine of separation of power entails 2 things -

(i) Principles of checks and balances → no organ should become authoritarian

(ii) Each organ must promote other 2 to fullfil their constitutional obligation

In this context, "separation of power" ensures that all 3 organs work effiecently in their own sphere and also keeps a check on other organ.

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Doctrine of separation of power in context of India:-

(i) Separation is not complete.

For eg: a) President is head of union executive as well as part of Parliament.

b) CoM are chosen from legislatures

c) President has power to pardon convicts

d) Parliament (legislature) have power to remove judges of H.C. and S.C.

(ii) It is required to uphold constitution supreme. Each organ has to work under ambit of constitution

(iii) Helps in maintaining judicial independence → has power to judicial review.

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Principle of Checks and balances:-

Means each organ ensures that other does not exercise unlimited power and donot become authoritarian.

eg. S.C. evolved "Basic structure Doctrine" to limit power of parliament to amend constitution

Thus, to uphold democracy and rule of law, all organs must work collectively as well as in their own sphere.

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18. Government schemes in India have long suffered from monitoring and implementation challenges. What steps have been taken by the government recently in this regard? Also discuss the potential of social audit in addressing these challenges. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

भारत में सरकारी योजनाएं दीर्घकाल से निगरानी और कार्यान्वयन संबंधी चुनौतियों से प्रभावित रही हैं। हाल में सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? साथ ही इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की क्षमता पर भी चर्चा कीजिए।

ans. It is said that Governments in India formulate best policies but they donot achieve their goals due to poor implementation and monitoring.

Reasons behind poor implementation :-

(i) Focus on output and not outcome.

(ii) Lack of people participation at policy making and implementation

(iii) Poor feed back and Grievance Redressal Mechanism.

(iv) No provision for mid level correction.

Steps taken by government to improving Governance

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(i) Concept of Citizen Charter introduced
(ii) Social audit eg. MGNREGA
(iii) Bills and policies are put in public domain for advice.
(iv) RTI act
(v) Grievance Redressal Mechanism. eg CPGRAMS
(vi) e-governance initiatives like Fr Nitika of Rajasthan
(vii) Enhanced role of civil societies and NGO → by RTI Act
(viii) Use of online platform for auction, bidding, procurement → helps in curbing corruption. eg. GeM

Potential of social audit

(i) It increases citizens participation through Gram Sabha, NGO etc.

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(ii) Bureaucracy held accountable.

(iii) It focus on outcome such as employment, poverty reduction, improvement in health indicator

(iv) Low chance for Mid level correction.

It is being reported that due to social audit, Corruption in MGNREGA have reduced significantly.

Thus, due to huge potential of IT technology we need to adopt more technology to get real time data and reduce human intervention

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19. In the context of recent concerns related to functioning of NGOs in India, discuss the need for self-regulatory guidelines and transparency mechanisms to restore the credibility of voluntary organisations.

(250 words) 15 Marks

भारत में NGOs के कार्यकरण से संबंधित हाल की चिंताओं के संदर्भ में, स्वैच्छिक संगठनों की विश्वसनीयता को पुनर्स्थापित करने के लिए स्व-नियामकीय दिशा-निर्देशों और पारदर्शिता तंत्रों की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

ans: NGOs are very essential to India as they provide services and goods to people and places where govt and private sector failed to provide.

However, recently Govt had banned Many NGOs as they were not registered with Govt.

Concerns of functioning of NGO :-

(i) Used as a medium to convert black money into white

(ii) Management not transparent.

(iii) Questionable funding

(iv) Allegations of wastage of Govt grants

(v) NGOs used as a tool by foreign govt to disrupt developmental activity. eg.

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Govt banned Greenpeace.

(vi) Youth not opting for volunteering

(vii) Urban - Rural divide → NGOs focusing on rural areas are very less.

Need for self regulatory guidelines and transparency Mechanism :-

(i) They must formulate guidelines to regulate themselves → as it is difficult for govt agencies to identify and track them.

(ii) Self disclosure of information and account details

(iii) Putting details of expenditure in public domain → to ensure transparency

(iv) Formulating proper management structure and clinching responsibility

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All these steps will help in:-
(i) Building trust among people in NGOs.
(ii) Govt will involve them in decision making.
(iii) NGOs would themselves would be able to achieve their goals.

Lokpal Act, 2013 provides for scrutiny of corruption charges against NGOs getting more than 10 lakh foreign funding. This will help as deterrance to corruption.

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20. Focusing on technology without realizing that e-Governance is basically about ushering reforms in governance has meant that the potential of e-governance has not been realized. Discussing the statement, suggest what should be done to address this situation. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

ई-गवर्नेंस मूलतः शासन में सुधारों का सूत्रपात करने के लिए है, यह समझे बिना प्रौद्योगिकी पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने का अर्थ यह हुआ कि ई-गवर्नेंस की क्षमता का दोहन नहीं हो पाया है। इस कथन पर चर्चा करते हुए, सुझाव दीजिए कि इस स्थिति से निपटने हेतु क्या किया जाना चाहिए।

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